

PATENT Attorney Docket No. 81715CIP

Customer No. 23685

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

THOMAS SHILALE ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/938,283

Filed: August 23, 2001

For: CONTINUOUSLY CONNECTED

FASTENER STOCK AND

METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE SAME

Group Art Unit: 3728

Examiner: Jila M. Mohandesi

Confirmation Number:2132

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Mail Stop Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants disclose the following information:

- 1. U.S. Patent No. 6,064,306, inventors Deschenes et al., issued May 16, 2000;
- 2. U.S. Patent No. 5,979,027, inventors Oh et al., issued November 9, 1999; and
- 3. U.S. Patent No. 5,949,336, inventors Deschenes et al., issued September 7, 1999.

Copies of the foregoing documents are not being provided with this paper as these documents are of record in U.S.S.N. 09/904,173 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,569,369), of which the present application claims the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 as a continuation-in-part. However, these documents are listed on the enclosed PTO Form FB-A820. Applicants respectfully request that the

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Examiner consider the above-listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the enclosed form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better prior art exists and does not constitute an admission that the above-listed documents constitute "prior art."

Applicants reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the above-listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present invention.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed herewith in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this paper that are not accounted for, the Examiner is authorized to charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 11-1755. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 that is not accounted for

already, such an extension of time is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Kriegsman & Kriegsman

y: <u>Catulal</u>

Edward M. Kriegsman

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Dated: January 22, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Edward M. Kriegsman

Reg. No. 3,529

Dated:



Patent Attorney Docket No. 81715CIP
Customer No. 23685

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Inventor: Thomas Shilale et al.

Serial No: 09/938,283 Filed: August 23, 2001 Examiner: Jila M. Mohandesi Group Art Unit: 3728

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For: CŎNTINUOUSLY CONNECTED FASTENER STOCK AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING

THE SAME

Mail Stop Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for the above-identified patent application are the following:

An Amendment
4 replacement sheet of drawings
An Information Disclosure Statement
Form PTO-FB-A820 (1 sheet)
A check for \$1130 (\$180 - IDS; \$950 - ext. of time)
A postcard

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The item(s) checked below are appropriate:

1. ____ Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for a three (3) month extension of time to respond to an Office Action dated July 22, 2003.

2. Please charge any fees or costs not accounted for to Deposit Account No. 11-

1755.

3. Applicant is a small entity.

Date: January 22, 2004

Edward M. Kriegsman Reg. No. 33,529

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